of Sales Tax revenues of these States/UTs for last 5 years upto 2004-05. Further, during first 7 months of the year 2006-07 (April-October), the tax revenue of 30 VAT implementing States/UTs has registered a growth rate of 26.1% over the corresponding period of the previous year.

(d) 3 States/UT, namely, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry are yet to implement VAT. The Government of Tamil Nadu has decided to implement VAT w.e.f. 01.01.2007. The Government of Puducherry has informed that it proposes to implement VAT w.e.f. 01.04.2007. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has yet not taken a decision regarding implementation of VAT.

Collection of service tax by BSNL

1427 SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BSNL, the Public sector telecom major contributes more than Rs. 3000 crores a year as Service Tax;

(b) whether BSNL collects Service Tax on more than 20 crore bills monthly;

(c) whether BSNL franchisees have alleged harassment by tax authorities over the payment of Service Tax every month and almost 25 per cent of the franchisees have threatened to sever connections with BSNL due to this vexatious tax collection system; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to address this problem faced by BSNL franchisees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No Sir.

(b) The information regarding the number of bills issued by a service taxpayer is not collected by the Department.

(c) No such instance of harassment has been reported.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Relief to employees of profit making PSUs

1428. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of any mandate to the Public Sector

oil companies to provide appropriate relief to the management staff without altering the pay scales in pursuant to the representation of Oil Sector Officers' Association, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the same will be extended to the officers/mangement staff of other profit making PSUs; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) It has been agreed by the managements of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) under the administrative control of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas that the Boards of Directors of these CPSEs may consider relief in terms of performance related payments to their Officers within the guidelines of Department of Public Enterprises (DPE).

(c) and (d) Performance Related Payments within the provisions of DPE guidelines dated 25.6.99 and 27.3.2000 may be provided by the management of profit making CPSEs.

Revival of loss making PSUs

1429. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Public Sector Units which are in continuous losses for the last three years, their names, extent of losses, extent of budgetary support provided, total capital employed and the number of employees; and

(b) the details of action proposed to stop this gross waste of tax payers' money?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Based on Public Enterprises Survey 2004-05, the latest period for which information is available, during last three years i.e. in 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 there were 54 continuous loss making Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs). The names of these CPSEs along with extent of losses, budgetary support provided, total capital employed and number of employees is enclosed as Statement (*See* below).

(b) Government has constituted a Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) in December, 2004 to undertake the task of study and analysis of the possibility for strengthening, modernizing, reviving, and restructuring of loss making CPSEs.